

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the title of the specification as follows:

~~SPILL-PROOF CUP~~ CUP WITH FEATURES TO PREVENT SPILLAGE

Please amend the paragraph spanning page 4, line 16, through page 5, line 5, as follows:

Preferably the lower (wider) end of the plug 18 has integrally formed or attached to it a downward pointing extension, for instance in the form of a tab or a ring ~~24~~, 23, with which the plug can be pulled out of the spout cavity for cleaning. This also adds to the size of the plug as a whole to conform with regulations governing the minimum size of objects which a baby might introduce into its mouth. When the plug is inserted into the spout's cavity, a tubular passage is formed by the channel 20 which is sealed everywhere except at its two ends. The diameter of the passage is such that air is prevented from entering past the liquid, for example a maximum diameter of approximately 3 mm. When the cup is inverted, liquid starts to enter the tubular passage, thus causing the air inside the cup to expand and thus reduce in pressure. When the sub-pressure thus created inside the cup equals the pressure of the water-head between the upper level of the liquid and the lowest point that it reaches in the tubular passage, the ingress of liquid into the passage ceases. The volume of the canal is such that at this point the liquid has not yet reached the outlet of the bore 16. Preferably, the volume of the passage should be somewhat larger so as to absorb the effect of downward shaking of the cup. For example, for a 200cc cup of typical shape, the volume of the passage would be approx. 1.2c.c. When the cup is returned to the upright position the sub-pressure retracts the liquid in the passage ready for the next inversion.

Please amend the paragraph spanning lines 3-10 on page 6 as follows:

---

B2 Referring now to Figures 4 and 5, and using like numerals for like parts, the spout 14 in this case is a tilted truncated cone. In a particular example, the wall thickness of the cone is 1.5mm, with an outside diameter at the top of 13mm. The plug 18 is in the form of a hollow truncated cone also, with a helical channel 20 about its exterior as before. The bottom of the plug 18 terminates in a hollow cylindrical portion 26 which provides a grip for removing the plug from the spout 18. The cylindrical grip portion 26 may have segments 28 cut out to further lighten it and avoid liquid being trapped inside when the cup is inverted. Other forms of grip could be used.

---